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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION V

167642  
No 0000006



DATE: DEC 21 1982

SUBJECT: Trip Report - Columbia City and Ft. Wayne, Indiana  
November 30th and December 1, 1982

FROM: Jonas Dikinis  
Remedial Response Section

TO: Gregory A. Vanderlaan, Chief  
Remedial Response Section

Purpose: To inspect 1) Wayne Waste Oil; 2) Parrot Road Dump; 3)  
Levin & Sons; and 4) Ft. Wayne Reduction - all NPL  
candidate sites

Attendees: Jon Dikinis  
Fred Norling  
Chris Oppy, ISBH  
Rich Strong, ISBH

Discussion: I planned a joint venture with ISBH to visually in-  
spect the above-mentioned sites. Fred and I joined  
Chris and Rich at Columbia City, and drove to the  
Wayne Waste Oil site in Columbia City. The results  
of the inspection are included as a separate attach-  
ment.

Having seen Wayne Waste Oil, we drove to Ft. Wayne to  
inspect three sites on the west side of town: Ft.  
Wayne Reduction; Levin & Sons; and Parrot Road Dump.  
We met with Mr. Barry Pass, exec. vice pres. of Levin  
& Sons, Inc. Barry gave us a tour of the sites and  
provided us with general background history on each.

The following day, Fred and I returned to photograph  
the sites. The details of the inspection are attached.

cc: Chris Oppy, ISBH  
Mike Berman, ORC

*Roger Ammer*  
*Tom Watson*

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JD:gh:Tape #6 Geraldine:12-17-82:Remedial Response Branch

*JD*  
12-21-82  
RRS I

## Wayne Waste Oil

## Inspection

Wayne Brockman, owner

Larry Brockman, manager

Larry Brockman met us at the office and allowed us to view an aerial map of the site. He did not admit to any waste disposal on Wayne Waste Oil property. He did not have any explanation for disturbed soil areas plainly visible in the aerial photo.

We walked the site, eventually traversing most of the 27 acres. Bulk tanks were clearly labeled as to oil fractions. They appeared to be in good shape, except for those in the SW corner which were corroded. A pond to the E of the office appeared fairly clean. Further east we found scattered drums (approx. one dozen), some were bulging, some were empty, some were corroded. One drum was labeled "methyl isobutylketone". To the north and east, soils appeared disturbed. We encountered areas with very soft, sandy soils. The patches were of an entirely different consistency from the surrounding soils (one could sink in particularly soft areas). One patch appeared to be rather oily. We found a small oil pit to the W of the dirt road. The pit was small in diameter (approx. 10 feet), depth unknown. The adjacent road was quite oily indicating that oily substances were simply dumped on the road's edge and allowed to drain into the pit.

The northeast corner of the property contains a wooded, shallow valley. It is here that we found almost 100 badly corroded drums scattered along the perimeter of an oval, flat area of a sandy consistency. ISBH staff believe that this area represents a site where significant open dumping of cyanide sludges and plating wastes has occurred. I stepped out into this area and found the soil to be very soft, somewhat like thick quicksand. A remedial investigation of this area is definitely necessary.

To the north lies the old city dump. Although several drums were visible, the contents appear to be all solid wastes.

We found an oil spill area in the SW corner of the site, and several grassy mounds which may be indicators of buried materials.

The obvious concern is the threat to groundwater. The 3 Columbia City municipal wells are located within 1/4 mile of the site. Furthermore, the site is bounded on the east and south by the Blue River which is used for fishing and boating.

I have a set of slides documenting our observations.

Note: The site was originally owned as a meat-packing plant until 1970. From 1970 - 1975 a woodworker owned the property. From 1975 - on, it has been owned by Wayne Waste Oil.

## Old City Dump

## Inspection

### Ft. Wayne Reduction

### Parrot Rd. Dump

### Levin & Sons

On November 30, 1982 we inspected these four sites in the company of Mr. Barry Pass, exec. vice president of Levin & Sons, Inc. The attached map shows the relative locations of these sites. The entire area has been subjected to open dumping practices for decades. The immediate area is heavily industrialized. Although Levin & Sons (principally a scrap metal recycler) has owned each of these areas at one time or another, the firm is by no means the only responsible party in the area.

**Old City Dump:** This area was the principal open dump for the City of Ft. Wayne. It has since been covered, and is now quite grassy and thinly forested. No wastes are visible on the surface.

**Ft. Wayne Reduction:** To the east of the city dump lies Ft. Wayne Reduction. It is not contiguous with the city dump, a demolition waste disposal firm, and an auto junkyard are located to the west of the site. The site is now owned by SCA Services, but is not in active use. It was formerly owned by principals of Levin & Sons who attempted to establish a supplementary fuels program using cellulose fiber wastes separated from industrial waste loads. The building on site was once used to separate reclaimable values from incoming waste loads. Wastes with no economic value were disposed of in the open field to the east. This area is now covered, although demolition waste litters the surface.

**Parrot Road Dump:** This site lies further east of Ft. Wayne Reduction, directly to the east of a small residential area called Riverhaven. Riverhaven is an economically depressed community in an unincorporated area between Ft. Wayne and New Haven. The residents draw water from private wells. The Parrot Road site is now owned by SCA Services and is totally covered, supporting an extensive grassy flora. Ditches intersecting the site appear free of leachate, although ISBH staff have found traces of contaminants in the drainage ditches. Parrot Road intersects the site along an east-west axis. The site is totally accessible to the public. There were no signs of active dumping.

**Levin & Sons:** The firm has retained ownership of a site bounded on the north by Parrot Road, and on the east by Hartzell Road. It lies directly to the east of Parrot Road Dump. The surface of the site is extensively littered with sandbags (remnants of the Ft. Wayne flooding earlier in the year). Leachate outcroppings were observed on the surface, running towards the drainage ditch along Parrot Road. No other signs of dumping were observed.

Overall, these sites occupy a large area. The immediate concern is the health and safety of Riverhaven residents. The residents of Ft. Wayne and New Haven draw from municipal drinking water supplies. There is very little direct contact threat. The Field Investigations Team will sample groundwater in the Riverhaven vicinity to determine whether or not groundwater contamination has occurred.

**Note:** All of these site lie in the floodplain of the Maumee River.

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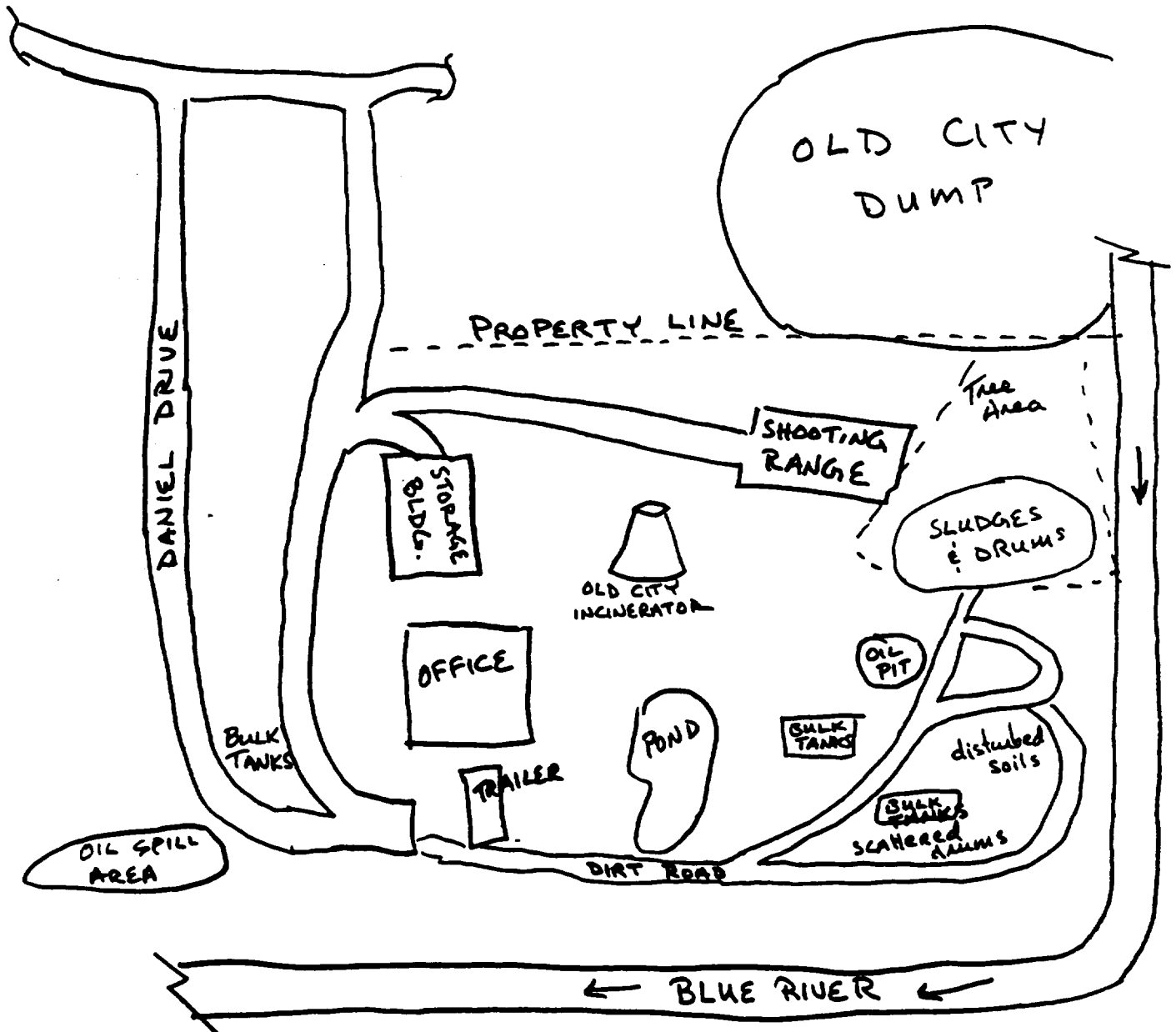
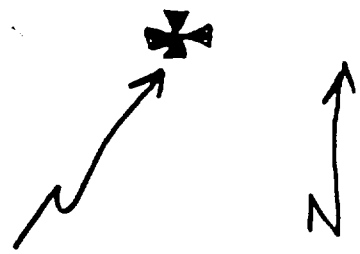
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WASTE WASTE OIL  
Columbia City, IN

MUNICIPAL  
WELLS  
~ 1/4 mi



SITE = ~27A. in size

NOTE: NOTHING IS IN SCALE!

Old City Dump

Inspection

Ft. Wayne Reduction

Parrot Rd. Dump

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- (PROPERTY Boundaries are approximations)

